

CLAIMS: I claim:

1. An album comprised entirely of multiple photographic prints that are folded and bonded to form two-page spreads with images continuous across the gutter, plus material to cover the folds that form the album spine.
2. An article as described in Claim 1 in which the folds are covered with a length of self-adhesive tape.
3. An article as described in Claim 1 in which the folds are covered with a fixable, flexible substance [such as gum, curable rubber, resin or similar material].
4. An article as described in Claim 1 in which the folds are covered with a fixable, flexible substance [such as gum, curable rubber, resin or similar material] which is in turn covered by tape.
5. An article as described in Claim 1 in which additional sheet material is added between selected prints in order to provide different characteristics to selected album pages.
6. An article as described in Claim 1 in which a sheet of material is added between the prints forming the first and second pages (the front cover) and to the penultimate and last prints (the back cover) to provide greater thickness and stiffness.
7. An article as described in Claim 1 for which the print height is one that is produced at minimum cost, commonly four inches.
8. A method by which the article of Claim 1 is formed comprising the steps of
  - a. folding each print inwardly,
  - b. bonding adjacent pages (right-side page to the next left-side page) back-to-back,
  - c. trimming and finishing the top, side and bottom edges of said bonded pages,
  - d. removing the blank print halves before the first page and after the last page, and
  - e. attaching additional material to the spine.

9. The method of Claim 8 in which the folded print sub-assemblies are stabilized by bonding the printed faces together in sacrificial areas along the edges.
10. The method of Claim 8 in which bonded print assemblies are fixed between sacrificial panels prior to trimming and edge-finishing operations, said panels being subsequently removed.
11. The method of Claim 8 comprising the steps of
- a. arranging prints face-out in a fixture, masking the central areas, and applying adhesive along the edges,
  - b. folding each print in turn and placing it in a second fixture,
  - c. applying adhesive to one side of each said folded print,
  - d. placing each said folded print in turn within a confining fixture that assures alignment,
  - e. compressing the assembled collection of folded prints so as to assure both full bonding and complete creasing of the folds along the spine,
  - f. installing the assembly in a fixture that provides a clamping means and an alignment means
  - g. trimming the edges to remove the sacrificially bonded areas, and to achieve finished dimensions and appearance, removing blank print halves before the first page and after the last page, and
  - h. applying a finishing treatment to the spine.
12. A method by which the article of Claim 1 is formed comprising the steps of
- a. partially folding prints
  - b. attaching said folded prints to one another along their outer edges to form a temporary pleated article,
  - c. applying adhesive to the back side of said temporary pleated article,
  - d. compressing the pleats of said temporary article to bond adjacent prints back-to-back,
  - e. trimming and finishing the top, side and bottom edges of said bonded pages,
  - f. removing the blank print halves before the first page and after the last page, and
  - g. attaching additional material to the spine.

13. The method of Claim 12 in which the temporary pleated article is formed directly by folding a single print alternately inwardly and outwardly, said print being a long strip on which all page images appear in sequence.